612. Ninety-five thousand eight hundred and twenty-two acres of paddy were cultivated by the "Japanese Method" as against a target of one lakh acres. Nurseries were raised on 5,440 acres to cover the area. The average yield by adoption of Japanese method per acre was 4,138 lbs. as against 2,755 lbs. by local method as revealed by Crop Cutting methods. Japanese method of cultivation.

(iii) Sericulture.

613. The Mysore Silk Worm Seed (Control of Distribution) Act, 1952, which was introduced during 1954, in the Mysore Seed Campaign areas was continued to be in force during 1955-56. The total quantity of Mysore reeling cocoons transacted in the ten cocoon markets was about 2·95 lakhs of pounds. Mysore seed cocoons were made available to the seed rearers at reasonable rates and there was no unhealthy competition between private seed preparers and aided grainages. Preliminary measures were taken up to extend the Act to the other sericultural areas of the State during the next year. Seed Legislation.

614. The area under mulberry during the year remained at 1,30,000 acres comprising of 1,09,500 acres of rainfed and 20,500 acres of irrigated gardens. Due to the fall in cocoon and silk prices during the latter part of the calendar year 1956, some of the mulberry gardens were neglected by sericulturists mostly in Mugur Division. An extent of about 600 to 700 acres of mulberry gardens were either renovated or newly planted in the Mysore seed cocoon producing areas of Bidadi, Kunigal and Dodballapur. Area under Mulberry.

615. The area under mulberry in the Government gardens was 57 acres and 29 guntas. Government Mulberry gardens.

616. A total quantity of 21·42 lakhs of foreign race seed cocoons were harvested out of the rearings conducted at the Government farms as against 18·8 lakhs during the previous year.

617. Out of the rearings in the gardens of the Government Silk Farm, Kunigal (Mysore seed area), a quantity of 4·52 (3·84) lakhs of Mysore seed cocoons were harvested.

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618. The area under mulberry in the Mysore seed campaign areas of Kunigal, Bidadi and Dodballapur was 3,478 acres 19 guntas.

Mysore Seed Campaign and seed supply.

619. There were 6,793 registered seed rearers as against 5,456 during the previous year. A total quantity of 29·31 (26·83) lakhs of Mysore race disease free layings was prepared and distributed during the year free of cost to the registered seed rearers.

620. The total output of Mysore race seed cocoons was 51 (53·66) crores. The short fall in the production is on account of the damage caused to mulberry gardens in Bidadi and Magadi seed area by hairy caterpillars during November and December 1955 and on account of the outbreak of Pebrine disease during the early part of the year. Owing to the fall in prices of seed cocoons the seed rearers in some places neglected their gardens and did not put the maximum effort to produce more cocoons. Out of the cocoons produced, 230 lakhs of Mysore seed cocoons were utilised by Government grainages and 3,500 lakhs were used by aided and private grainages including the seed preparers of Madras State. The rest of the cocoons were utilised for reeling purposes.

621. "Pebrine" the epidemic disease of silk worms broke out sporadically in seed areas, mostly in Kunigal during June and September 1955. Measures were taken immediately to arrest the disease.

622. In spite of the above unfavourable conditions, the supply position of Mysore seed cocoons was satisfactory during the year, except during a short period in February 1956, when owing to fewer crops in Kunigal seed campaign area, the prices of seed cocoons soared from Rs. 8 to Rs. 10 per 1,000 cocoons.

623. Since the area under irrigated mulberry gardens is limited in the seed areas of Bidadi, Kunigal and Dodballapur, scarcity of Mysore seed cocoons is felt almost every year during the months of February, March and April, particularly when there is delay in the onset of monsoons. A scheme for payment of subsidy to the seed rearers of the seed area who are desirous of sinking wells for irrigation of mulberry gardens was sanctioned both by the Mysore Government and the Central Silk Board.

624. The supply of Mysore disease free layings free of cost to the registered seed rearers in the seed areas was continued during the year

Foreign Race Seed Campaign

625. Due to the unfavourable seasonal conditions that prevailed during the months of February and March in the sericultural areas of Mugur Division, the crops suffered from the bacterial disease " Flacherie " and this accounted for the fall in the production of foreign race seed cocoons.

626. A quantity of 4·2 lakhs of foreign race disease free layings were prepared and supplied to the registered seed rearers during the year as against 4·90 lakhs of disease free layings in the previous year. The number of seed rearers was 625. The total output of foreign race seed cocoons was 6·30 (7·6) crores during the year. The average yield for 100 disease free layings was 15,000 cocoons.

Hill Stations

627. The area under mulberry on the Hill Stations of K.R. Hills and B.R. Hills was 10—11 acres. A quantity of two lakhs of foreign race seed cocoons was produced and a quantity of 40,000 foreign race hill ameliorated silkworm seeds was prepared and distributed among the Government Farms in the plains for being reared and multiplied. The rainfall on the Hill Stations of K.R. Hills and B.R. Hills was 112·03 inches and 40 inches respectively.

628. Due to the attack of " Mildew " a fungus disease to the mulberry gardens on B.R. Hills, there was a fall in the production of foreign race seed cocoons.

Industrial seed supply

629. There were 23 Government grainages and 168 aided grainages in the State including 28 aided grainages sanctioned during the year. Out of the 23 Government grainages, 15 of them prepared industrial cross breed disease free silk worm layings and the rest prepared basic seed of Mysore and foreign races. The output of disease free layings in Government and aided grainages was 267·53 (239·37) lakhs. Of the total production, Government grainages produced 44·19 lakhs of cross breed layings, 29·31 lakhs of Mysore basic seed layings and 4·20 lakhs of foreign race basic seed layings and aided grainages produced 189·83 lakhs of cross breed disease free layings. About 35 per cent of the total requirement of silk worm seed in the State was met by Government aided grainages.

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630. The sale price of 100 cross breed disease free layings was Rupees four and Rupees five. The demand for cross breed layings was generally normal during the year.

Sericultural Co-operation.

631. There were Six Sericultural Co-operative Societies. The Societies of Ummathur and Ganal prepared and distributed 3·04 (3·81) lakhs of cross breed disease free layings.

Assistance to Sericulturists.

632. A quantity of 79,228 mulberry grafts, 1,225 seedlings, 50 cartloads of green mulberry cuttings and 3,100 chandrikes were supplied free of cost to the sericulturists as against 85 cart loads of mulberry cuttings and 38,586 grafts during the previous year.

Market conditions.

633. The market rates of reeling cocoons were little low during October and November 1955 and during the other months were more or less at the level of the economic price determined by the Indian Tariff Commission, *viz.*, Re. 1-4-0 to Re. 1-6-0. The prices of foreign race seed cocoons ranged between Rs. 5 and Rs. 15. The prices of Mysore race seed cocoons ranged from Rupees three to Rupees four except during the month of February 1956 when the prices went up to Rs. 10 per 1,000 for a short period.

Sericultural Loans.

634. Loans to the extent of Rs. 1,500 were sanctioned to the sericulturists for improving their mulberry gardens and sinking of wells.

Work of Filatures in the State.

635. The Government Silk Filature at Kankapura continued to work with an average capacity of 150 basins per day. A quantity of 20,876 lbs. of good silk comprising of various deniers from 13/15 to 28/32 and about 920 lbs. of dupion silk were manufactured in the filature, during the year. Dupion and inferior silks were sold as and when manufactured.

636. A quantity of 10,660 lbs. of silk waste was produced. The average price realised during the year on the sale of silk was Rs. 27-11-0 per lb. of good silk Rs. 10-8-3 per lb. of Dupion silk and Rs. 3-15-5 per pound of silk waste. Two thousand five hundred and eight yards of silk fabric were produced with the ten hand-looms attached to the filatures utilising 538 lbs. of filature raw silk. All the fabrics produced during the year were sold with small profit.

637. Two hundred and seventy-four samples of raw silk received from several firms and filatures of both Mysore and other States were tested for quality.

National Extension Service Scheme.

638. There were five National Extension Service blocks in the sericultural areas of the State, *viz.*, (1) Ramanagaram *cum* Kanakapura, (2) Malavalli, (3) Sidlaghatta, (4) Gundlupet and (5) Magadi.

639. The sericultural activities in these blocks consisted of (a) supply of disease free layings to sericulturists (b) supply of high yielding mulberry grafts (c) providing marketing facilities to cocoon growers (d) technical guidance on modern methods of silk worm rearing and mulberry cultivation and (e) sericultural education.

640. In the National Extension Service Scheme in 423 villages, there were 7,291 acres and 27 guntas under mulberry. A total quantity of about 77·85 lakhs of layings were supplied to the sericulturists of the area by Government aided and other private grainages.

Silk Industry in Bellary District.

641. Sericulture was continued to be practised in Harapanahalli taluk of the Bellary district. The area under mulberry was 23·20 (14·52) acres. A quantity of 1,135 foreign race disease free layings were reared and 85,000 foreign race seed cocoons were harvested during the year.

642. The Government Silk Farm, Harapanahalli, was continued to function and 3,636 foreign race disease free layings were prepared and supplied to the Sericulturists of the area and to other Government silk farms.

Supply of Chandrikes to Silk Worm Seed Rearers.

643. The Central Silk Board gave a grant of Rs. 20,000 to purchase and distribute bamboo chandrikes free of cost to the seed rearers of the areas *viz.*, Kunigal, Bidadi and Dodballapur.

Supply of Refrigerators to Aided Graineurs.

644. The scheme is fully financed by the Central Silk Board. Sixty-five refrigerators were purchased during the year at a total cost of Rs. 1,20,605-10-0 and distributed to Aided Graineurs.

Development of Foreign Race Seed Station at K.R. Hills for rearing Univoltine and Bivoltine Races of Silk Worms.

645. The object of the scheme was to conduct rearings of univoltine and bivoltine silk worm races imported from Japan and to produce the basic hill ameliorated foreign race disease free layings. The total cost of the scheme is Rs. 96,600.

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Finance.

646. The expenditure of the Department during the year was Rs. 5·76 lakhs and remittances to Treasury was Rs. 2·25 lakhs against Rs. 7·45 lakhs and Rs. 2·41 lakhs respectively during the previous year.

(iv) Department of Animal Husbandry Services.

647. Considering that the Livestock form an integral factor in the agrarian economy of the country and that the improvement of livestock is of primary importance in an agricultural country like Mysore, the policy of the Department continued as heretofore, to be the organisation and planning of the State's Animal Husbandry activities.

648. The seasonal conditions were satisfactory throughout the year. There was adequate supply of water and fodder to the livestock. Due to general slump in the money market, the prices of livestock continued to be low resulting in much loss to the breeders.

649. There were 226 (225) veterinary institutions at the end of the year.

650. The State continued to remain free from Rinderpest. Nevertheless as a prophylactic measure 28,333 animals were protected against the disease.

651. The State joined the rest of the States south of Krishna river in launching the pilot project for the eradication of Rinderpest sponsored and partly financed by the Government of India. Under the mass vaccination campaign 9,19,292 cattle, over six months of age were protected and branded during the year.

Black-quarter.

652. Four thousand three hundred and seven (2,088) outbreaks of Blackquarter were registered and 4,296 cases were attended to during the year protecting 7,53,833 (4,31,706) animals against the disease by vaccination.

653. One thousand, two hundred and forty-nine (859) Haemorrhagic Septicaemia were registered and 1,230 (858) were dealt with during the year, protecting 2,80,990 (1,95,126) animals against the disease by vaccination.

Anthrax.

654. One thousand and eighty-nine (635) cases of Anthrax were registered, 607 (635) were attended to and 81,225 (65,486) cattle and sheep were protected.